

I believe that remembering our veterans is not an option – it is an American duty.

One of the best tools we have to help us remember the heroes of WWII is right here on Long Island. The American Airpower Museum in Farmingdale is a tribute to both our veterans and the unique contributions of Long Islanders to American aviation. So when plans to demolish the museum were announced, I fought back.

Earlier this week, joined by Senator Chuck Schumer, I was able to announce that our efforts to preserve the museum were successful. Additionally, I worked with New York State to designate the museum as historically significant, which makes it eligible for the National Registry of Historic Places and provides further protection. Keeping this Museum at Republic Airport is vital to our region's history, but it's also important to our local economy as it hosts 40,000 visitors annually.

The work of Long Islanders helped us win World War II and the Cold War, and the American Airpower Museum enshrines that history. Losing the Airpower Museum would have been an insult to the generations of Long Islanders who dedicated themselves to freedom – which is why I fought so hard to preserve it.